

631 D Street, NW (Rear) (WAREHOUSE)
Washington
District of Columbia

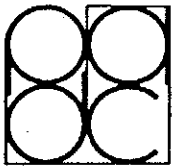
HABS No. DC-615

HABS
DC,
WASH
359-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HABS DC-615



PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

425 13TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

GENERAL CONSULTANTS

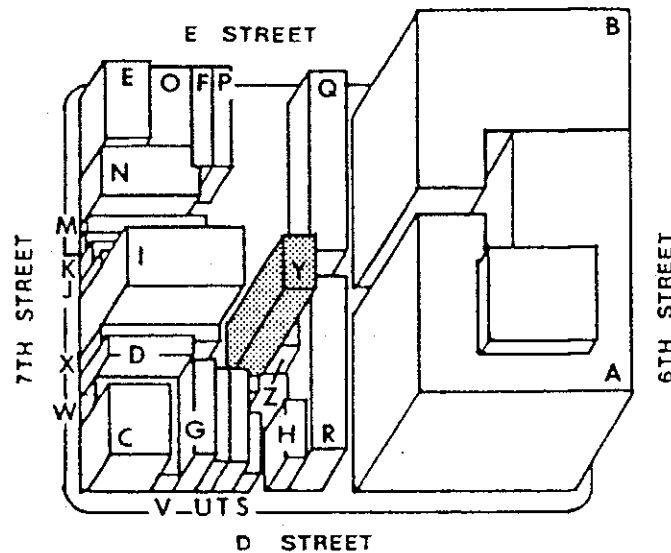
ANDERSON NOTTER / MARIANI
GENERAL PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
DEVROUX & PURNELL
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS
DAVID MCLAREN HART & ASSOCIATES
PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
MONK DUNSTONE ASSOCIATES
COST ESTIMATING CONSULTANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

HABS
DC,
WASH,
359-

Warehouse
Rear 631 D Street, NW
Lot 810



This documentation was produced for mitigation purposes by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Additional documentation exists for Square 457, within which this structure stands. For photographs, historical, and descriptive data on Square 457, see HABS No. DC-597.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This eight-story concrete frame industrial building is located mid-square on Square 457. Its northern facade is flush with the contiguous two-story brick and concrete block structure to the east. Service alleys give access to the building on its north and west facades. The building's south and part of its east face can be reached from D Street, though there are no entrances on these facades. The building's overall form is rectangular, thirty-five feet from east to west, seventy feet from north to south and approximately ninety feet in height. The ground floor projects ten additional feet southward and stair and elevator towers rise at the southeast and northeast corners, respectively.

The building's concrete frame, four bays by two bays, is expressed on its facades. Open panels are filled with common-bond red brick and with black-painted steel industrial windows. Brick surrounds each window on three sides; only the top reaches to the concrete frame. One door and two wooden freight doors are located on the west side and a metal elevator door is located in the eastern bay of the north facade. Only the bays of the east facade have no openings. A black cylindrical metal duct rises up the center of the south facade. A brick chimney divides one eastern bay of this facade, and intermediate concrete spandrels in the eastern two-thirds of the bay mark the stair tower.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Tax records indicate 1930 as the probable date of construction for this building. It is an example of an early-Twentieth Century industrial building of crude though solid concrete construction. Its mid-square position minimizes the impact of the tall building on the streetscape, though empty lots on E Street and at 631 D Street permit some visibility.

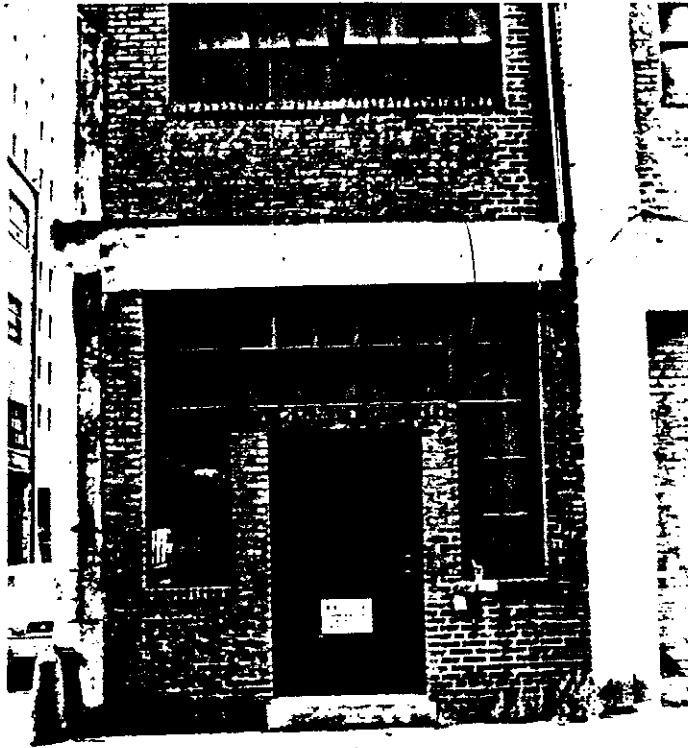
September 1979



SOUTH ELEVATION,
VIEWED FROM D STREET



OBLIQUE VIEW OF ALLEY
(NORTH AND WEST)
ELEVATIONS



WEST ELEVATION: ENTRANCE
IN NORTHERNMOST BAY

Lot 6
631-637 D Street

When originally platted, Lot 6 was an L-shaped property located in a southwestern quadrant of Square 457. It was bounded on the north and east by a public alley.

1819.....A.E. Hough and John Coyle were owners of Lot 6.

1824.....At this date, the Tax Records indicated a division of the lot into east and west properties. Refer to the individual listings for further information.

Lot 6 Background (Sublot 810)

Located behind Lots 808 and 809, Lot 810 measured approximately 30' x 80'. It initially appeared in the Tax Assessment Records in 1859.

1859.....Owned by James Kennedy, the lot was valued at \$2999.00.

1870.....The property passed onto George E. Kennedy, the owner until the 1893/94 Records. The improvement assessment was \$1200.00.

1878/79..The value of the ground dropped to \$1199.00.

1883/84..The land assessment was \$1500.00. No building improvement value was recorded.

1893/94..The new owner was John L. Vogt. He was assessed \$2999.00 for the land, \$1800.00 for improvements to the structure.

1899/

1900.....Vogt's lot value was \$2249.00 and his improvement value was \$2000.00.

SOURCES

Baist Real Estate Atlas

Bastert and Enthoffer Plat Maps

Boyd's City Directories

District of Columbia Building Permits

District of Columbia General Assessment Records

District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds

District of Columbia Surveyor's Office Records

District of Columbia Tax Records

Hopkins Real Estate Atlas

Polk's City Directories

Property Map for Downtown Urban Renewal Area for District of Columbia Redevelopment
Land Agency

Sanborn Insurance Map